## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Currently amended) A <u>finished</u> ball comprising an outer skin having a plurality of layer complexes, <u>wherein each layer complex comprises a plurality of pre-bonded layers forming an inseparable layer, the outer skin comprising at least one inner layer complex and an outermost <u>layer complex forming a top layer complex of the finished ball</u>, wherein <u>a the</u> top layer complex <u>forming an outermost layer complex of the ball-includes a syntactic material that comprises a plurality of resilient spherical bodies dispersed in a matrix material.</u></u>
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the spherical bodies comprise microspheres.
- 4. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the spherical bodies comprise polymeric hollow microspheres.
- 5. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the spherical bodies comprise acrylonitrile copolymer microspheres.
- 6. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the matrix material is selected from the group consisting of polyurethane, polyurethane foam, polyvinyl chloride, and latex.

- 7. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the top layer complex comprises a first layer and a second layer adjacent the first layer.
- 8. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 7 wherein the second layer comprises an aliphatic material.
- 9. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 7 wherein the top layer complex further comprises a third layer adjacent the first layer.
- 10. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 9 wherein the third layer comprises at least one fabric backing material.
- 11. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 wherein the matrix material is an adhesive.
- 12. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1 further comprising a middle skin adjacent to the outer skin, a backing layer adjacent to the middle skin, and an inflatable bladder adjacent to the backing layer.

## 13-23. (Cancelled)

- 24. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1, wherein the outer skin is formed from a plurality of cut pieces and the plurality of cut pieces are joined together.
- 25. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 24, wherein the plurality of cut pieces are sewn together.
- 26. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1, wherein the spherical bodies are not more than 20% by weight of the matrix material.

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27. (Previously Presented) A ball according to claim 1, wherein the spherical bodies are not less than 1% by weight of the matrix material.